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ASSESSMENT OF NURSING CARE RENDERED TO WOMEN
DURING THEIR FIRST STAGE OF LABOUR
IN AIN SHAMS MATERNITY HOSPITAL

THESIS

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By

MONA AHMED MAHMOUD

B. Sc. Nursing : Cairo

Supervised by

Dr. Mohamed N. El-Makhsangy

Prof. of Obstetric & Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine
Ain Shams University

Dr. Seham S. Raghab

Prof. Department of Obstetric & Gynecology
Higher Institute of Nursing, Alexandria University

Dr. Mahmoud El-Shourbagy

Assistant Prof. of Obstetric & Gynecology, Faculty of
Medicine Ain Shams University

Higher Institute of Nursing
Ain Shams University

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INTRODCTION

INTRODUCTION

Labour is a stressful situation involving physiological and psychological tension upon parturient's (Dianne, 1983).

Sharon et al (1983) emphasized that care of parturient's during labour implies not only consideration of the actual processes of labour but also of equal importance the wellbeing of parturient and fetus. The parturient needs skillful attendant to prevent the occurrence of complications, this will help in decreasing maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality (Stryker, 1971, and Eid, 1977).

To execute the care needed, the nurse must have conceptual knowledge of the course of normal labour as well as the ability to cope with stressful and emergency situations. Knowledge and technical abilities are not sufficient but what matters for nurses is to have empathic supportive attitude towards the parturient.

It has been stated by Fitzpatrick (1980) that the course of labour and quality of care the parturient receives during her childbirth experience may influence markedly the future health of both the parturient and her infant. Iaris (1971) and Susy (1985) mentioned that the supportive care should not only

include aspects of emotional support but also aspects of physical care which in the total context of care contribute to the wellbeing and comfort of the parturient and hence to her emotional equilibrium.

AIM OF THE STUDY

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The main objectives of this study are to :-

- 1- Evaluate the nursing care provided to the parturient's throughout the first stage of labour at Ain Shams Maternity Hospital in order to identify the positive and negative aspects of such care.
- 2- Assess the nurse's knowledge in relation to nursing care needed during labour.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

CP

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Labour is defined as the process by which the fetus, placenta and membranes are expelled through the birth canal after the 28th week of gestation (Myles, 1981). This process is accomplished mainly by rhythmic contractions of the myometrium, which leads to cervical dilatation and effecement. At the sametime the uterine contractions push the fetus to leave the uterus and descend through the birth canal (Clousen et al, 1973 and Butnarescu et al 1983). Labour is considered normal if it occurs spontaneously, at term, with the fetus presenting by vertex, without interference (except episiotomy), through the vagina and without complications neither to the parturient nor to the fetus (Towler, 1973 and Samaha 1984).

The process of labour is divided into three distinct stages as stated by Sharon et al (1983).

*** The first stage of labour, or the dilatation stage, which begins with the onset of true labour pains and ends with the complete dilatation of cervix.

*** The second stage of labour, or the stage of expulsion, which begins with the complete dilatation of the cervix and ends with the delivery of the fetus.